

TOP SECRET

SA/ADS+T
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20 August 1963

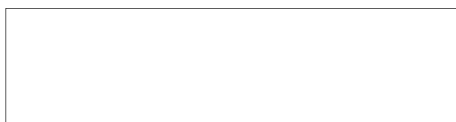
MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

SUBJECT: Photographic Reconnaissance of Areas of Intelligence
Significance Obtained Outside of KH and T Channels

1. It has come to light from time to time that a significant amount of photox reconnaissance intelligence is procured by sources other than those under the cognizance of COMOR. It is not too difficult to tap other known sources such as the JRC but clandestine efforts, photography taken by other nations, and even some attache photographs are not always readily available. The immediate objective of this paper is to explore how to devise a cooperative system for identification and for notification.

2. In the past several months, in addition to the standard need for photography of the Sino-Soviet bloc and Cuba, a need has been expressed for photographic reconnaissance of various countries in the Middle East, [redacted] and most of the [redacted] southeast Asia. Such demands could result in the deployment and use of a U-2, failing knowledge of availability of photography from other sources which might satisfy the requirement.

3. In our estimation, the community requirement for photographic intelligence could be met better with initial cooperation



GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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along the following lines:

- a. Establish NPIC as the focal point for receiving reports of photographic activity capable of producing intelligence on the Sino-Soviet bloc and the areas listed above. Initially this means that COMOR members would report to NPIC any knowledge they had of impending photographic activity or of the existence of photography. Additional information on tracks, even though rough, and type of camera used would help NPIC gauge the potential value of the photo reconnaissance program in question.
- b. NPIC to establish a central file of such information and institute a reporting procedure. This report to be in the form of a monthly report to the members of COMOR. It being understood that in the interval between reports NPIC through its central file could be responsive to questions as to whether an area of interest were being photographed.
- c. Upon an expression of interest by COMOR in receiving photography, NPIC would take steps to procure it. In the execution of this, it is expected that individual members of COMOR could be most helpful.

4. It is not felt that the foregoing should become a charge on NPIC to obtain masses of photography which might be of little value or to

retain files of photography it does procure if again the photography proves to be of marginal value. The primary purpose is to learn of the existence of photography so it may be procured to serve an immediate intelligence purpose or to obviate unnecessary use of the U-2 asset.

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ROUTING IP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		INITIALS
1.	Asst/Ops/NPIC		
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RETURN TO SENDER			
ACTION		CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION
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REMARKS			
<p>Per our telephone conversation this morning. This is pretty rough and may violate some of your procedures. If it does, I would appreciate coming up with some constructive alternatives for the meeting on Thursday, 20 Aug. I personally feel that this is a serious gap which we ought to be able to plug with some cooperative help and the minimum of bureaucracy. At least it is preferable to start out formally rather than to create a bureaucratic monster that does not really meet the problem.</p>			
FROM			
NAME AND ADDRESS		PHONE NO.	
26 B 21,			
		DATE	
		20 AUG 1963	

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